

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 416 by Representative Lopinto

PAROLE: Amends timing of parole eligibility for certain offenders

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Deleted provision which provided parole eligibility to certain second felony offenders upon serving 33-~~2~~ % of the sentence imposed.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides that a person, otherwise eligible for parole, convicted of a first felony offense shall be eligible for parole consideration upon serving one-third of the sentence imposed, and upon conviction of a second felony offense, such person shall be eligible for parole consideration upon serving one-half of the sentence imposed. Present law further provides that a person convicted of a third or subsequent felony offense shall not be eligible for parole.

Present law provides that a person convicted of a crime of violence and not otherwise ineligible for parole shall serve at least 85% of the sentence imposed before being eligible for parole.

Proposed law amends present law to provide that upon a first felony conviction, the offender shall be eligible for parole upon serving 25% of the sentence imposed, unless the offender has been convicted of a crime of violence, has been convicted of a sex offense, has been sentenced as a habitual offender, or is not otherwise ineligible for parole:

Proposed law retains present law with regard to a person convicted of a crime of violence, a person convicted of a sex offense, or a person sentenced as a habitual offender.

Nothing in proposed law shall prevent an offender from reapplying for parole in accordance with present law.

Proposed law provides that any savings realized by the provisions of proposed law shall be appropriated by the La. Legislature to DPS&C for reimbursements for the costs of incarceration of offenders awaiting probation and parole revocation hearings, for other local corrections programs that reduce recidivism, for expanded treatment programs, and for expanded probation and parole services.

(Amends R.S. 15:574.4(A)(1))